

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT Weekly OB Summary

REPORT NO.

25X1A

DATE DISTR.

4 May 1954

NO. OF PAGES

3

REQUIREMENT NO.

RD

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

082973

BY CABLE

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE:

25X1A

25X1X

The following is a summary of Soviet and KVP military activities observed prior to 3 May 1954:

A. Soviet Troop Movements and Exercises

1. First Guards Mechanized Army: The 9th Tank Division conducted regular training at the Zeithain troop training grounds between 7 and 14 April. On 22 April, the 133rd Guards Engineer Battalion of the 8th Guards Mechanized Division held a river-crossing exercise on the Mulde River, southeast of Grimma.
2. Second Guards Mechanized Army: Combat firing exercises were held by the 2nd Light Artillery Brigade at Prora/Ruegen between 22 and 25 April and by a tank unit of the 1st Mechanized Division in the Neustrelitz area between 22 and 26 April.
3. Third Guards Mechanized Army: The transfer of troops to the training grounds began on 26 April. Two shipments of the 7th Guards Tank Division, from Rosslau and Kochstedt, including 17 tanks and armored personnel carriers, 40 motorcycles with sidecars, five light AA guns, and 27 motor vehicles, were loaded at the Dessau railroad station on 26 April. The loading of at least four shipments of tank and artillery units of the 6th Guards Tank Division, including 40 T-34 tanks, seven field howitzers and 80 trucks, took place in Wittenberg after 27 April. The shipments were dispatched to Justertog, and from there to the Werder-Markendorf troop training grounds. Simultaneously, motor vehicle columns went from Wittenberg to Werder. Only a guard unit remained at the barracks installations in Luebben in late April. It appears that the departure of the 9th Mechanized Division to the troop training grounds is under way.

SECRET

STATE	ARMY	#X	NAVY	X	AIR	#X	FBI	AEC											
-------	------	----	------	---	-----	----	-----	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

SECRET

- 2 -

25X1A

4. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army: Artillery units of the 10th Guards Tank Division conducted combat firing exercises in Jueterbog in mid-April. Units of the 25th Tank Division departed from Prenzlau and Oranienburg for Camp Vogelsang on 25 and 26 April. The tank regiments left Prenzlau by rail, while the artillery and mortar regiments left by road. Two troop shipments were dispatched from Oranienburg to Zehdenick.
5. Third Shock Army: Units of the 63rd Guards Mechanized Regiment of the 19th Guards Mechanized Division left the Anger Kaserne (5286) in Magdeburg on 21 April. The troops went to summer camp, presumably in the southern sector of Letzling Heath.
6. Eighth Guards Army: The engineer battalion of the 39th Guards Rifle Division from Saalfeld was engaged in ferry construction at Hohenwarte Dam on 12 April. The 498th AAA Regiment of the XXIX Rifle Corps returned to Naumburg from a four-week firing exercise at Wustrow on 16 April. Small infantry and artillery units of the 57th Guards Rifle Division held combat firing practice at the Kindel troop training grounds between 16 and 20 April. The training grounds are not as heavily occupied as expected, perhaps because of the airfield construction project in the area. An artillery unit with eight guns and infantry units with billeting equipment, all of the 57th Guards Rifle Division, were loaded in Naumburg on 21 and 26 April respectively. It is believed that these units transferred to Kindel.
7. IV Artillery Corps: Elements of the 3rd Guards AT Artillery Brigade left Rostock on 23 April in two shipments for firing exercises in the Prora/Ruegen area. Two hundred flatcars, 33 converted boxcars, and 44 boxcars were loaded in Rathenow after 27 April. Five shipments, including four with elements of the 18th Light Howitzer Brigade, were dispatched prior to 29 April.
8. GOFG Units: In late March, the engineer regiment from Bernburg was observed constructing a bridge across the Saale River. Amphibious cars were employed in the construction of the eight-ton bridge which was in operation after 15 minutes. Two shipments of the regiment left Bernburg for Sperenberg on 18 and 19 April.²

B. KVP Developments

1. Sections of the KVP Department of the Ministry of the Interior were transferred to Strausberg airfield between 28 April and 3 May. Generals Karl-Heinz Hoffmann, Vincenz Mueller and Wilhelm Mayer were among those who moved to the new installation.
2. Fifty percent of the KVP was on Easter leave between 15 and 20 April. The Weisswasser troop training grounds were used by elements of the Dresden Mechanized Division and the Tank and SP Artillery regiment from Zeithain. The AAA firing range in Zingst was in operation up to 14 April. Elements of the AAA regiment of Corps North were identified there.
3. The AT regiment of Corps North, previously stationed in Stallberg, was observed at the Kavallerie Kaserne in Pasewalk in late March. The regiment departed for an unknown destination on 31 March.

C. Field Summary:

Soviet units began to transfer to summer camps after 25 April. The transfer of six of the 22 combat divisions has been observed to date. The KVP is expected to continue to train at its posts until the spring inspection in late May after which it will transfer to summer camps.

SECRET


SECRET

- 3 -




25X1A

25X1A

1.  Comment. The 7th Guards Tank Division is believed to have transferred to the southern sector of Letzling Heath and the 9th Mechanized Division to the Forst Tauer troop training grounds.

25X1A

2.  Comment. It is possible that a demonstration of fast bridge construction will be given at Sperenberg. Two shipments with equipment of the 36th Pontoon Bridge Regiment left Magdeburg on 21 April, presumably for the training area southeast of Rosslau.

SECRET